



U.S. Immigration
and Customs
Enforcement

News Release

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ICE AGENTS DISMANTLE SAN DIEGO DOCUMENT MILL

Two men arrested for selling and manufacturing fake immigration and social security documents

SAN DIEGO — Two men, both Mexican nationals living illegally in the United States, face state charges today for operating a counterfeit document mill on Sampson Street in Barrio Logan. U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agents arrested Jose Zamora-Camacho, 46, and Jose Luis Sandoval-Avila, 28, at their residences Monday night for manufacturing and selling fraudulent immigration and social security documents.

The arrests followed a month-long probe that led agents to a local document mill that Sandoval began recently operating inside his residence on Sampson Street in Barrio Logan.

During a month-long investigation, ICE agents identified Zamora as one of many “go to” persons for purchasing fake documents in San Diego. Court documents reveal that Zamora would cut a package deal with customers, where for \$160.00, he would arrange for both a fraudulent legal resident card (green card) and a fake social security card be made using the customer’s photograph. He then arranged with Sandoval to have the documents produced at Sandoval’s Sampson Street home.

Executing a state search warrant at Sandoval’s residence, agents confiscated computers, laminated seals bearing Immigration and Department of Motor Vehicle logos, fraudulent documents and an array of document production supplies.

"There's a real risk that counterfeit documents could be used by terrorists and other criminals bent on doing the American people harm, said Frank Marwood, acting special agent-in-charge for ICE investigations in San Diego. "That threat makes it imperative that we aggressively pursue these types of investigations."

Last month San Diego ICE agents arrested two others on similar charges. Ivan Perfecto, 25, and Rene Guzman, 24, were taken into custody on August 17 at their El Cajon residences for manufacturing and selling false citizenship and legal resident documents. Both were charged in State court and their cases are pending.

The San Diego District Attorney’s office will charge both Zamora and Sandoval with nine felony counts for manufacturing and selling counterfeit immigration and identify documents this afternoon in California State Superior Court.

If convicted, Zamora and Sandoval face prison terms. Upon completion of their criminal case, both will be turned over to ICE for deportation.

ICE

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) was established in March 2003 as the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security. ICE is comprised of five integrated divisions that form a 21st century law enforcement agency with broad responsibilities for a number of key homeland security priorities.